

of the personnel and the procedures to be used. If the applicant intends to contract for source loading or unloading at its facility, the loading or unloading must be done by an organization specifically authorized by the Commission or an Agreement State to load or unload irradiator sources.

(h) The applicant shall describe the inspection and maintenance checks, including the frequency of the checks required by § 36.61.

§ 36.15 Start of construction.

The applicant may not begin construction of a new irradiator prior to the submission to NRC of both an application for a license for the irradiator and the fee required by § 170.31. As used in this section, the term “construction” includes the construction of any portion of the permanent irradiator structure on the site but does not include: Engineering and design work, purchase of a site, site surveys or soil testing, site preparation, site excavation, construction of warehouse or auxiliary structures, and other similar tasks. Any activities undertaken prior to the issuance of a license are entirely at the risk of the applicant and have no bearing on the issuance of a license with respect to the requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and rules, regulations, and orders issued under the Act.

§ 36.17 Applications for exemptions.

(a) The Commission may, upon application of any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant any exemptions from the requirements in this part that it determines are authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and are otherwise in the public interest.

(b) Any application for a license or for amendment of a license authorizing use of a teletherapy-type unit for irradiation of materials or objects may include proposed alternatives for the requirements of this part. The Commission will approve the proposed alternatives if the applicant provides adequate rationale for the proposed alternatives and demonstrates that they are

likely to provide an adequate level of safety for workers and the public.

§ 36.19 Request for written statements.

(a) After the filing of the original application, the Commission may request further information necessary to enable the Commission to determine whether the application should be granted or denied.

(b) Each license is issued with the condition that the licensee will, at any time before expiration of the license, upon the Commission's request, submit written statements to enable the Commission to determine whether the license should be modified, suspended, or revoked.

Subpart C—Design and Performance Requirements for Irradiators

§ 36.21 Performance criteria for sealed sources.

(a) *Requirements.* Sealed sources installed after July 1, 1993:

(1) Must have a certificate of registration issued under 10 CFR 32.210;

(2) Must be doubly encapsulated;

(3) Must use radioactive material that is as nondispersible as practical and that is as insoluble as practical if the source is used in a wet-source-storage or wet-source-change irradiator;

(4) Must be encapsulated in a material resistant to general corrosion and to localized corrosion, such as 316L stainless steel or other material with equivalent resistance if the sources are for use in irradiator pools; and

(5) In prototype testing of the sealed source, must have been leak tested and found leak-free after each of the tests described in paragraphs (b) through (g) of this section.

(b) *Temperature.* The test source must be held at -40°C for 20 minutes, 600°C for 1 hour, and then be subjected to a thermal shock test with a temperature drop from 600°C to 20°C within 15 seconds.

(c) *Pressure.* The test source must be twice subjected for at least 5 minutes to an external pressure (absolute) of 2 million newtons per square meter.

(d) *Impact.* A 2-kilogram steel weight, 2.5 centimeters in diameter, must be